

From: [jackie sunderland finer](#)
To: [Thomas West](#)
Subject: Fishers Cove Comment
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 6:00:51 PM

Name: jackie sunderland finer

Email: jsfiner@gmail.com

Website:

Message: to use rodney as an entrance and exit for fishers cove development is to destroy a pre existing neighborhood. use a pilotown rd. entrance: move the historic house to a better location, so that more residents and visitors can enjoy it. lewes is famous for resettling old historic houses/museums, to better engage the public. start a go fund me account and we can get the job done.

jackie finer, friend of rodney street.

Time: August 27, 2019 at 10:00 pm

IP Address: 73.87.57.26

Contact Form URL: https://lewescommissions.wordpress.com/reviews/dev_reviews/fishers-cove/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

From: [Eunice E. Henderson](#)
To: [Thomas West](#)
Subject: Fishers Cove Comment
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 5:13:48 PM

Name: Eunice E. Henderson

Email: hendersonmack@gmail.com

Website:

Message: I want the Lewes Planning Commission to recommend to the Mayor and City Council that the current preliminary application for the Fishers Cove Development be denied.

I live on Hoornkill Avenue in Lewes, DE. We purchased our home 26 years ago and I have been a full-time resident for the past six years. We spent a lot of time looking for a place to call home during our retirement years. We fell in love with Lewes during our first visit. Hoornkill Ave, a neighborhood of families with modest houses on a dead-end street, was perfect. There was no talk of a flood zone then.

Now, like many of my neighbors on Hoornkill and Rodney, I feel threatened. The preliminary application for the Fishers Cove Development is an idea that is not well formed and appears to be based on unreliable data. There are just too many unknowns to recommend approval of this preliminary application, particularly with its strong promise of flooding nearby neighborhoods.

We still don't have confidence that the developer's plans for storm water management will be viable and not result in increased flooding of our homes on Rodney and Hoornkill during storm surges or even high tides. We can't have a real grasp of the amount of impervious surface resulting from the proposed development since we don't know for sure the sizes of the homes that will be built on the 18 lots. I believe a last minute suggestion, made orally by the developer at the most recent Public Hearing, to use an underground pipe to direct storm water into the canal needs to be looked at by cognizant appropriate authorities before the Planning Commission makes its recommendation to the Mayor and City Council.

We know that the use of Rodney Avenue as the entrance to the proposed development will potentially destroy the character and customs of one of the oldest internal communities in the city of Lewes. People choose to live on dead-end streets for the quiet, low traffic, and close community feel that they provide. I know that is one of the main reasons our home on Hoornkill Ave was so attractive to us. The Planning Commission should do no harm and instead work to protect the old internal communities of Lewes.

I hope the Planning Commission recommends denial of the current preliminary application for the Fishers Cove development. I hope too that Lewes city government immediately begins to do the requisite work to ensure that our regulations, laws, and codes are amended/rewritten to better serve the needs of beautiful Lewes in the 21st century.

Time: August 27, 2019 at 9:13 pm

IP Address: 73.129.120.147

Contact Form URL: https://lewescommissions.wordpress.com/reviews/dev_reviews/fishers-cove/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

From: [Martha D'Erasmio](#)
To: [Thomas West](#)
Subject: Fishers Cove Comment
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 4:24:18 PM

Name: Martha D'Erasmio

Email: martyderasmio@yahoo.com

Website:

Message: Submission to the Lewes Planning Commission; for inclusion in the open record I am writing today to ask The Lewes Planning Commission to recommend DENIAL of the current request submitted by developers for preliminary consent of Fisher's Cove, a proposed development that would create 18 residential lots with an entrance from Rodney Avenue. The rationale for DENIAL of the current preliminary application is straightforward. Current science in conjunction with modelling tools in use demonstrate that the dangers posed by the current preliminary application are real and potentially catastrophic to the surrounding neighbors, the Great Marsh, and the owners of the 18 homes proposed for the property.

To name a few of the problems:

- The application lacks a clear explanation of how storm water will be handled? Do we really think that, as the developer states, the HOA will have the expertise and the financial capacity to manage and be responsible for operation of storm water management? Absolutely not. What will happen when the Developer has sold lots and moved on, builders don't accept responsibility, sub-contractors are nowhere to be found and the homeowner is left holding the bag? Number 5 among the core values of the city of Lewes reads, "Lewes recognizes and maintains its internal communities". Rodney Avenue and Hoornkill Avenue are among the oldest internal Lewes communities and should be protected and preserved. Their neighborhood of modest homes and quiet streets should be treasured.
- How much impervious surface should be allowed? Nothing yet has addressed in a comprehensive pragmatic fashion the impact on the Great Marsh and our wetlands of roads, sidewalks, driveways, houses, pools, the widening of Rodney Avenue, and other housing developments, planned and underway.
- As nature's first filter, flood plains serve essential environmental functions by filtering nutrients and impurities from run-off, promoting infiltration and aquifer recharge. Fishers Cove Development would be situated in an environmentally sensitive floodplain whose movement and growth will be curbed if the Development is constructed as currently proposed. We rely on you to act in ways that protect and sustain the floodplain and that will allow it to grow as effective floodplains do.

Current Lewes ordinances are not in tune with environmental changes and the realities of rapid growth in our area. The Lewes Mayor and City Council in conjunction with the Planning Commission need to call upon the talents and expertise that residents of Lewes have in abundance to prepare new ordinances that are consistent with current realities and that will protect and support the citizenry. Lewes is, indeed, a very special place. We all feel privileged to live here. Let's join hands and all pull together for the common good. We are way better than the awful strife we see around us these days. Now is the time to become a model community that practices foresight and understanding of the powerful forces, both natural and man-made, that have the potential to destroy our much loved Lewes.

Marty D'Erasmus
18 Shipcarpenter Square
Lewes, DE 19958
302-644-8554

Time: August 27, 2019 at 8:24 pm
IP Address: 73.129.127.32
Contact Form URL: https://lewescommissions.wordpress.com/reviews/dev_reviews/fishers-cove/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

From: [Carole and Matthew Ash](#)
To: [Thomas West](#)
Subject: Fishers Cove Comment
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 10:33:05 AM

Name: Carole and Matthew Ash

Email: carole.ash18@gmail.com

Website:

Message: Please be there for your community!

- The development is in an environmentally sensitive flood Plain. Even the recent Flood Study noted increased flooding was possible. At the 8/21 public hearing the developer's attorney and engineer said they were considering diverting storm water into the canal rather than the Great Marsh/Canary Creek Basin. Yet they are not submitting updated plans. This is not the usual application and the normal rules governing the application process clearly don't fit this set of circumstances. Given the lack of specific details the LPC should be wary of setting precedents.

- Fishers Cove lagoon water levels will increase because of the additional impervious surface resulting from the construction of roads, sidewalks, driveways, and houses. This will increase the potential for flooding of adjacent properties, which include existing homes on Rodney Ave, Hoornkill Ave, and Pilottown Road.

- Fishers Cove Development will eliminate most of the short and long term beneficial functions of the flood plain such as filtering nutrients and impurities from runoff, promoting infiltration and aquifer recharge and reducing flood velocities and peaks.

- Use of Rodney Avenue as the entrance to Fishers Cove will require construction of a raised road around the wetlands. The road elevation will divert storm surge to surrounding properties, causing increased flooding.

- The use of Rodney Avenue as the entrance to Fishers Cove is inconsistent with the city of Lewes' core value #5, "Lewes recognizes and maintains its internal communities". Rodney Avenue and Hoornkill Avenue are among the oldest internal Lewes communities and should be protected and preserved. Their neighborhood of modest homes and quiet streets should be treasured.

- There is insufficient information upon which to make a good decision and proposed changes to the application are being suggested orally for critical elements of the proposal even at this late date. Preliminary consent approval at this time may be premature and even imprudent.

we are at:

1 Hoornkill Ave

Time: August 27, 2019 at 2:33 pm
IP Address: 73.87.158.251

Contact Form URL: https://lewescommissions.wordpress.com/reviews/dev_reviews/fishers-cove/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

From: [Anne Colligan](#)
To: [Thomas West](#)
Subject: Fishers Cove Comment
Date: Monday, August 26, 2019 7:10:24 PM

Name: Anne Colligan

Email: ajaccp79@gmail.com

Website:

Message: Members of the Planning Commission and City Council,

I am writing to ask the Lewes Planning Commission to recommend denial of the proposed Fishers Cove subdivision.

First, the development is in an environmentally sensitive flood Plain. Even the recent Flood Study noted increased flooding was possible. At the 8/21 public hearing the developer's attorney and engineer said they were considering diverting storm water into the canal rather than the Great Marsh/Canary Creek Basin. Yet they are not submitting updated plans. This is not the usual application and the normal rules governing the application process clearly don't fit this set of circumstances. Given the lack of specific details the LPC should be wary of setting precedents.

Second, Fishers Cove lagoon water levels will increase because of the additional impervious surface resulting from the construction of roads, sidewalks, driveways, and houses. This will increase the potential for flooding of adjacent properties, which include existing homes on Rodney Ave, Hoornkill Ave, and Pilottown Road.

Third, Fishers Cove Development will eliminate most of the short and long term beneficial functions of the flood plain such as filtering nutrients and impurities from runoff, promoting infiltration and aquifer recharge and reducing flood velocities and peaks.

Fourth, use of Rodney Avenue as the entrance to Fishers Cove will require construction of a raised road around the wetlands. The road elevation will divert storm surge to surrounding properties, causing increased flooding. The use of Rodney Avenue as the entrance to Fishers Cove is inconsistent with the city of Lewes' core value #5, "Lewes recognizes and maintains its internal communities". Rodney Avenue and Hoornkill Avenue are among the oldest internal Lewes communities and should be protected and preserved. Their neighborhood of modest homes and quiet streets should be treasured.

Finally, here is insufficient information upon which to make a good decision and proposed changes to the application are being suggested orally for critical elements of the proposal even at this late date. Preliminary consent approval at this time may be premature and even imprudent.

Thank you for your attentive reading and for taking into consideration all the above reasons for not going ahead with this proposed subdivision.

Regards,
Anne Colligan

Time: August 26, 2019 at 11:10 pm

IP Address: 73.87.57.42

Contact Form URL: https://lewescommissions.wordpress.com/reviews/dev_reviews/fishers-cove/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

From: [Joan Lewis](#)
To: [Thomas West](#)
Subject: Fishers Cove Comment
Date: Monday, August 26, 2019 3:12:36 PM

Name: Joan Lewis

Email: jpl-11@earthlink.net

Website:

Message: I am requesting that the Planning Commission recommend denial of the Fishers Cove subdivision.

The proposed development is in an extremely environmentally sensitive flood plain. The water levels are likely to increase because of additional impervious surfaces resulting from the new roads, sidewalks, houses etc and will increase the likelihood of flooding of existing houses on Rodney Ave., Hoornkill and Pilottown Rd.

It is time for the planning commission to listen to the wishes of its CURRENT constituents.

Time: August 26, 2019 at 7:12 pm

IP Address: 73.129.121.255

Contact Form URL: https://lewescommissions.wordpress.com/reviews/dev_reviews/fishers-cove/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

From: [Patrick M McCoy](#)
To: [Thomas West](#)
Subject: Fishers Cove Comment
Date: Monday, August 26, 2019 3:10:01 PM

Name: Patrick M McCoy

Email: patrick.mccoy@ssmgroup.com

Website:

Message: I am writing to urge denial of the Fisher's Cove subdivision in its current design and without requirements to prevent adverse impacts to the flood plain and adverse impacts upon adjacent properties due to flooding.

The AECOM study on Flooding Effects showed adverse impact to my property at 108 Rodney Ave in case of the Fisher's Cove simulations.

The AECOM Study had the following Recommendations:

“• Evaluate entire drainage basin in design of storm water systems • Include coastal surge in storm water design • Confirm grading and storm water can accommodate surrounding area • Include water table effects on storm water ponds • Monitor and maintain storm water systems • Minimize increases to impervious surface • Refine models with measured data”

I urge the Lewes Planning Commission to follow the recommendations that were a result of this taxpayer funded study and; the recommendations of numerous other local and regional studies, symposia and panels on the topic of stormwater, drainage, water quality, coastal climate change and resilience.

A start would be to insist, prior to Preliminary approval, specific details related to all stormwater management and grading.

Time: August 26, 2019 at 7:10 pm

IP Address: 50.251.85.218

Contact Form URL: https://lewescommissions.wordpress.com/reviews/dev_reviews/fishers-cove/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

From: [Elizabeth Pierotti](#)
To: [Thomas West](#)
Subject: Fishers Cove Comment
Date: Monday, August 26, 2019 3:09:23 PM

Name: Elizabeth Pierotti

Email: lizandiku@msn.com

Website:

Message: My name is Elizabeth Pierotti and I have owned a home on Hoornkill avenue for 20 years. I am writing to request that the Lewes Planning Commission deny the proposal for the Fisher's Cove Development.

The commission has been provided with testimony and studies that clearly show the very real danger of flooding to the surrounding houses in this valued Lewes community if this project were to be built. There has also been testimony regarding the damage to the flood plain that provides numerous benefits to the natural area. Water degradation by developments is a real threat to the Great Marsh and its wildlife including plants and animals that reside here.

I do not need to add to that overwhelming response by restating what the commission has repeatedly been presented with. I shouldn't have to. The evidence that this development would be detrimental to our existing homes and our environment is there, plain and simple.

Instead, I would like to ask the following questions of the Planning Commission. What are you planning? How do you see Lewes, Delaware in 20 years? What is it about this town that made you want to take the lead and be involved in its future? Are you actively working to ensure the betterment of our lovely town?

Some things can not be undone. Some things are lost forever. It is reasonable to say "No" to one in order to protect the many, especially when the many are your neighbors, your community. That is the duty you have been charged with as members of this committee.

Please reject this proposal and protect Lewes, Delaware.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Pierotti
27 Hoornkill Ave
Lewes, Delaware

Time: August 26, 2019 at 7:09 pm
IP Address: 100.15.241.29
Contact Form URL: https://lewescommissions.wordpress.com/reviews/dev_reviews/fishers-cove/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

From: [Chris Beakey](#)
To: [Thomas West](#)
Subject: Fishers Cove Comment
Date: Monday, August 26, 2019 11:47:39 AM

Name: Chris Beakey

Email: chrisbeakey@verizon.net

Website:

Message: Hello - I'm writing to ask the Planning Commission to deny the current development proposal for Fishers Cove. Below is the text of a letter that will run in the Cape Gazette on Tuesday, August 27. Thanks.

Dear Editor,

As a former communications contractor with FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program, I left Wednesday's public meeting regarding the proposed Fishers Cove development with one big question: Why would the Lewes Planning Commission even consider the possibility of allowing this development, as currently envisioned, to be built?

I listened to about an hour and a half of presentations from engineers and flood experts and testimony from long-time homeowners about the indisputable probability of serious flooding in and around the properties already located in the neighborhood, and how much worse this flooding will be if 18 homes are built as currently envisioned. I was astounded by the pure scientific facts of flooding dangers that will be significantly exacerbated by the proposed development - and stunned by the realization that the homeowners have been forced to mount such a significant effort on their own to simply protect their homes.

These residents are not opposed to development. They are simply asking that decision-makers protect their properties by fostering sound development that doesn't go to such extraordinary lengths to artificially alter the flow of water. These are people who have been paying taxes and protecting each others' property values for decades. They are justifiably scared of what the developers have proposed, and have been forced to spend their own money to protect their properties - and probably their life savings in many cases - because a handful of developers, in my view, want to make as much short term profit as possible.

Area homeowners are also justifiably concerned about access to and from the proposed development. Rodney Avenue is currently a narrow road without sidewalks. Faced with the prospect of having the road widened to allow more cars, construction vehicles, garbage trucks, Fed Ex trucks and other vehicles to drive through their neighborhood (all of which would reduce their property values and damage their quality of life) the residents are asking that the main access to the proposed development be from Pilottown Road.

According to what I heard at the meeting, the developer doesn't want to do that because they want to "protect the value" of the historic Fisher House on Pilottown Road, which is beside where the road would be. People with a vested interest in the Fisher House, whose properties won't be affected by the proposed development, are testifying in favor of the development because they want to "preserve" the land around the home.

This strikes me as a cynical ploy to divert attention from the real threat to the neighborhood's current homeowners and taxpayers. In other words, the developers are endangering the environment and current homeowners with their proposal, and are now presenting themselves as "preservationists" of a historic home as a reason to get what they want. It seems like a perfect example of creating a problem based on their own financial self-interests and then trying to get credit for solving it.

I won't be surprised if proponents of "property rights" once again make the argument that if the developers buy the property they should be able to do whatever they want with it. But why would they have the "right" to do jeopardize the environment and the property rights of the taxpayers who are already there?

Please listen to the scientists, taxpayers and homeowners. Ensure these developers strike the right balance between profit and environmental protection. Vote against this proposal as it stands and require the developers to present a better plan.

Chris Beakey

Time: August 26, 2019 at 3:47 pm

IP Address: 96.227.147.70

Contact Form URL: https://lewescommissions.wordpress.com/reviews/dev_reviews/fishers-cove/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

From: [Debra Evalds](#)
To: [Thomas West](#)
Subject: Fishers Cove Comment
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 9:27:44 PM

Name: Debra Evalds

Email: debraevalds@yahoo.com

Website:

Message: I am voicing concerns as a City of Lewes resident who lives two blocks from the proposed Fishers Cove development. I spoke at the public hearing on 8/21/19, but also want to insure that my comments are written into the public record. Please vote no on the Fishers Cove Major Subdivision. My neighborhood, home, and neighbors are relying on you.

We bought our circa 1980 "used" home in 2007. It was not in the flood zone, but it is now, as are most of our neighbors' homes. We have experienced more flooding in the last 10 years. The water came to our front steps during Hurricane Sandy. Since then we have observed increased ground saturation which recedes slower than it used to. The canal is half a bock up, but the water doesn't come from the canal. The water rises up from the storm drain, swale, and even the ground. The swale behind our home fills with water from the Great Marsh or lagoon behind Hoornkill, not the canal. Paving of the last recharge area is going to make this worse and we are already in danger from coastal storms and hurricanes.

Here are some serious points to consider:

- 1) The north end of Lewes does not have an adequate storm management system. There are homes on Hoornkill and New that are in the County and still on septic systems. The storm drains are sporadic and the system is old. It is absurd to consider adding a development to a neighborhood that isn't to city codes and doesn't have adequate drainage systems in place.
- 2) We are seeing flooding in this neighborhood already. More impervious surface will NOT improve the situation, despite the developer trying to pitch the nonsense that their homes and streets will improve drainage.
- 3) This is an older neighborhood with many elderly residents. Neighbors on my street do not evacuate unless someone comes and removes them. It is a disaster waiting to happen.
- 4) It is irresponsible, and against the doctrine of the law, to allow construction that harms existing neighborhoods. Fishers Cove will increase flooding in this existing neighborhood and this is completely unfair to those that live here.

Please, reject this application.

Time: August 28, 2019 at 1:27 am
IP Address: 73.129.125.113
Contact Form URL: https://lewescommissions.wordpress.com/reviews/dev_reviews/fishers-cove/

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